

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A method for making a load cell comprising the steps of:
 - (a) attaching a sensor to a mount;
 - (b) applying a pressure force to the sensor against the mount with a pressure member;
 - (c) heating the sensor and mount through the pressure member to form a secure bond between the sensor and the mount.
2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the pressure member is at least one clamp and step (b) includes clamping the sensor and the mount together.
3. The method according to claim 2 wherein the clamp is a heating clamp having an internal heating source and step (c) includes heating the sensor with the heating clamp for a predetermined amount of time to form the bond.
4. The method according to claim 3 including removing the clamp after the heating process has been completed.
5. The method according to claim 3 wherein step (a) includes adhering the sensor to the mount with an adhesive.

6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the sensor is a strain gage and the mount defines a metal surface and step (a) includes adhering the strain gage to the metal surface.

7. A method for making a load cell comprising the steps of:
 - (a) adhering a strain gage to a metal member;
 - (b) clamping the strain gage and the metal member together with at least one clamp; and
 - (c) heating the strain gage and metal member through the clamp to form a secure bond between the strain gage and the metal member.
8. The method according to claim 7 including removing the clamp after heating the strain gage and the metal member for a predetermined amount of time.
9. The method according to claim 7 wherein the clamp includes an internal heating source and step (c) includes applying heat to the strain gage and the metal member directly from the heating source inside the clamp.

10. A system for making a load cell comprising:
 - a sensor attached to a mount; and
 - at least one heated clamp for clamping said sensor and said mount together and
 - including an internal heating mechanism for applying heat to said sensor and said mount
 - for a predetermined amount of time to form a secure bond between said sensor and said mount.
11. The system according to claim 10 wherein said sensor is adhered to said mount with an adhesive.
12. The system according to claim 10 wherein said sensor is a strain gage and said mount is a metal member defining a mounting surface for receiving said strain gage.
13. The system according to claim 10 including a power source for supplying energy to said internal heating mechanism.